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#### AMUSEMENTS.

Story of "Pair of Spectacles." "A Pair of Spectacles," in which Mr. John Hare will make his first appearance in Indianapolis at the Grand Opera House tonight, was first produced by that actor at the Garrick Theater, London, in 1889. It is by Sidney Grundy, who adapted it from "Les Petits Oiseaux." Mr. Hare plays the part of Mr. Benjamin Goldfinch, a delight ful old gentleman, who sees everybody and | having the character of the incidents as everything through rose-colored glasses, holds his fortune as God's trustee, and is imposed upon a little, but loved a great deal. He has a brother, Gregory, a selfmade person of the most aggressive pattern, who habitually wears green spectacles. Gregory comes to visit Benjamin Benjamin breaks his rosy spectacles, and, while they are away being repaired, borrows his brother's glasses, and sees everything tinged with green. The glasses worr him at first. He takes them off frequently, But he gradually becomes used to them, and grows to be a mean, suspicious, hardhearted old curmudgeon. At last he gets his own glases back, and under their beneficent induence he becomes himself again. The spectacles are used in the play merely as a parable. What really happens is this: Aided by circumstances, Gregory succeeds in converting Benjamin to his own

ism is gradual but rapid. He begins by mistrusting coachmen, shoemakers and walters. Soon he comes to mistrust his old servants, his friends, his nephew, his son, his wife, everybody. Then all the suspicious circumstances are explained. A rumo spreads about that Benjamin has lost all his money, and then everybody acts in such a way as to more than justify all his old faith in human nature. "Caste," the second of the Hare plays of we are to have a revival to-morroy night, made Tom Robertson famous. It was produced in London in 1867, nearly thirty years ago, and it is interesting to recall the fact that John Hare was in the original presentation, winning laudation as Sam Gerridge, the commonplace, jealous, plebelan, sharp, decisive, little cokney gasfitter. In Indianapolis he will play the part

of Eccles, which he essayed for the first time only a couple of weeks before sailed for his present tour of the United To-night "A Pair of Spectacles" will

preceded by "When George the Fourth was King," and on Wednesday night by "Six

Kathryn Kidder's Luck. Here is a good story of Kathryn Kidder's luck in securing "Sans-Gene." one of the few great successes in recent years, which this city will have its first opportunity to see at English's to-night. When M. Sardou finished "Madam Sans-Gene" he sent a copy of the manuscript to his American quest's theater. agent with instructions to sell the rights | for the usual price-\$5,000. In obedience to these instructions the agent sent "Madam Sans-Gene" to the Empire Theater in New York, but Charles Frohman did not like the piece and returned it. Then the comedy was sent to Palmer's Theater, but A. M. Palmer saw no merit in it, and once more his manuscript came back. Then Daly's Theater was tried, and Mr. Daly liked the comedy no better than his brother managers had. "Madam Sans-Gene" was a drug on the theatrical market, and the agent began to think that no one would touch the piece for love or money. Finally this representative discovered Kathryn Kidder. Miss Kidder had not very much experience, but she had saved up \$5,000 out of her salary, and was persuaded to ouy "Madam Sans-Gene" with her little capital. It is said that she went to almost every manager in New York with offers to share the play, provided she could gain assistance in its stage setting and costumes. Nobody would go onto the venture with her and Miss Kiddder was in despair, until a Pitou, who immediately assumed the cost the production. The play was shortly afterwards produced by the peerless Rejane in Paris. Then the cables flashed ander the seas the intelligence that 'Madam Sans-Gene" was a phenomenal success. On hearing this, Augustin Daly who needed a play for Miss Rnean, immeword that he would buy "Madam Sans-Gene." The agent told him that the play had already been sold. Mr. Daly declared that he wanted that play whether it was sold or not, and promptly offered \$15,000 for the American rights. Whereupon the agent went to Kathryp Kidder and offered her money back, "No. said the young actress, who had read the cable dispatches, also, "I am satisfied." "Will you take \$6,000?" asked the agent Think of it; a thousand dollars profit. 'No," again said Miss Kidder. "I like the well enough." "Will you take \$7,000, 8,000, \$10,000, \$12,000, \$14,000, \$14,500?" successvely pleaded the agent, and still Miss. der refused to be tempted. The outcome

of the affair was that Miss Kidder held on

to the play, and now it begins to look as if

ing money for everybody concerned in it.

ryn Kidder's share has made her independ ently wealthy.

Miss Kathryn Kidder, one of America's most accomplished actresses, has made a triumph in the title part, and Augustus Cook shares the leading honors as Napoieon. Other principal characters are said to be most ably played by Harold Russell, Wallace Shaw, Willis Granger, Charles Plunkett, Miss Franceska Lincoln, Miss Catherine Campbell and twenty-five others. It will be generally regretted that the engagement of "Madam Sans-Gene" is limited to two nights here.

Another Version of "The Spectacles." It is understood that John Hare and Tim Murphy have never met, yet just now they are both identified with the same character. It will be found by the audience at the Grand to-night that Mr. Hare's Benjamin Goldfinch is only another name for Jason Green in "Old Innocence," played here by Tim Murphy last week. It would be better to say that Benjamin Goldfinch, alias "Jason Green," was played by Mr. Murphy, for in "Old Innocence" Mr. Murphy is giving a somewhat garbled version of the famous play, "A Pair of Spectacles." The little conceit about the spectacles running through Sydney Grundy's adaptation, which John Hare plays, was cut out of Mr. Murphy's play, and one of the characters was changed to give Miss Dorothy Sherrod a part with some love sentiment attached. a feature strangely lacking in "A Pair of Spectacles." Still those who have seen both plays do not hesitate to say that "Old nnocence," in many of the lines, follows the Grundy version, the American rights of which were sold to A. M. Palmer in 1889 when the play was produced in London Hare's advance man was here last week and saw "Old Innocence," and it is possible there will be some attempt made to prevent Tim Murphy from playing "Old Innocence." The original was written years ago by Labiche and Delacour, two French dramatists, and it is said they took the play from a still older production, which dates back to the first decade of the century, when it came out as an Italian

Joe Jefferson Talks of the Stage. Chicago Tribune.

Mr. Joseph Jefferson, who finished his engagement at McVicker's on last Saturday, left yesterday afternoon for New York. Just previous to his departure he was visited by a reporter for the Tribune. The chum of President Cleveland conversed entertainingly upon the secrets of dramatic art, and upon the background and foreground effects of theater styles in women's

sibilities of the stage, and believes not only that legitimate drama is constantly developing as an art, but that the public is taking an increasing interest in high-class en-

"I am unwilling," he said, "to violate the ethics of the profession by public comments on my brother actors, but I think I can be excused for making one exception. Last night I attended the performance of Theodore Hamilton in 'Pudd'nhead Wilson,' and it is seldom I have seen stronger or more artistic acting. Mr. Hamilton has the power of concentrating his individuality into every scene and is never out of the scene. At the same time, he has that rare quality of retiring into the background when the scene does not need him. The effect of this is, when be becomes the central figure again he is all the stronger. We actors do not often have a chance to see the acting of other 'stars,' and I must say I was heartily pleased with the perform-ance which I attended last evening." Mr. Jefferson also had occasion to notice

the high hat nuisance in Chicago. "I have extremely enjoyable feelings of evenge," he said, with a Rip Van Winkle twinkle, "when I see a woman with a high hat trying to dodge the high hat of another woman sitting in front of her. As for high hats in the theater, I regard them as good backgrounds for the women's faces, but I think they furnish poor foregrounds

When asked to give his opinion of the merits of recent plays Mr. Jefferson said: "The public keeps itself pretty well in formed and I do not think I can say anything regarding new productions which would be new to theater-goers. A play soon takes and is successful, or it is immediately the reverse. But it is difficult to theorize or forecast the fate of a play. Rehearsals and first readings never furnish any data as to what the public is going to like. I think, on the whole, the best effects in acting come from simplicity, in the cutting out unimportant details, and in simple and unconfused as possible. simplicity of the art-the less that is done after the salient parts are expressed-the better the audience enjoys it. It is a good thing for the actor to take the audience into his confidence-not to act to them, but for them. Vulgar details should not be thrown upon the audience, for people will reject any realism with a tail to wag at the wrong time. Mr. Jefferson believes comedy is a serious

art and demands a depth and earnestness not unusally given to it. "If the actors show by their manner the understand the humor of the play," he said, "they spoil everything."

Notes of the Singe. At the Empire the first half of this week will be seen "Oriental America."

The fifth series of cinematographe pictures will be shown at the Park at each The Crystal Maze at the Eden Musce, Park Theater building, will be open from

11 a. m. to 11 p. m. daily. Davis & Keogh's "The Great Train Robbery," with thirty-five people in the cast, comes to the Park this afternoon for three

Marie Jansen has been engaged by Hoyt & McKee for "A Stranger in New York," Hoyt's new comedy, in which Harry Conor

The attractions at the Grand and English's the last half of this week will be Lewis Morrison's "Faust" and Rhea's 'Nell Gwynne," respectively. The advance sale opens this morning at the Fembroke.

After years of persistent refusal Duse has consented to play in Paris, and will make her debut there in "Fedora." This is Bernhardt's own Parisian role, but Duse has courage enough to defy the French critics.

"The Cherry Pickers" is nearing its 100th performance at the Fourteenth-street Theater in New York, where it continues to draw overflowing audiences. Mr. Arthur's picturesque drama is one of the genuine successes of the season. Not since the days of "The Old Homestead" and "Blue Jeans" has any play been so enthusiastically received by the patrons of Manager Rosen-

This season Mr. and Mrs. Russ Whytal are to make an extended tour of the South, presenting "For Fair Vinginia" in all the large cities in that section. In this play Mr. Whytal has accomplished the unusual result of writing a story that deals with the war between the States and does not offend either a Northern or Southern man. The play was not taken further South than Nashville and Memphis last season, and its reception in the South was more hearty

than ever before accorded to a drama of Marguerite Reld, who was heard at the New York Metropolitan Opera House three years ago, and returned to Europe after singing for a short time in operetta with the Bostonians, determined to take her place among the better known opera singers, if continued work could gain that eminence. Last spring she sang at Covent Garden, and was highly praised for her work in the light soprano roles, gaining especial approval as Zerlina, Michaela and Neda in "I Pagliacci." Miss Reid has been devoting the time since her return to Europe to study with Mme. Laborde and Herman Bemberg. Now she has been engaged ucky accident led her to consult Augustus | as the prima donna at the opera in Cannes, and made her debut there last week as

## CITY NEWS NOTES.

Marguerite in "Faust.

A directors' meeting of the Boys' Club and Employment Association will be held at the rooms, 64 East Court streety to-morrow afternoon.

presented Captain Fred Ward with a jewel of honor and Mrs. Ward with a cut-glass pitcher as a Christmas testimonial. Dr. Moulton, of the University of Chicago, will deliver as the last lecture of his course one entitled 'Tragedy in General.' at High School Hall, at 8 o'clock to-morrow evening. The review on Richard II comes at 7 o'clock.

#### Please Suspend Judgment. "leveland Leader.

A negro was lynched in Alabama the other day without even being asked if he the was wise in doing it. The piece is mak- | wanted time to pray. But be not too hasty in condemnation of this impulsive procedure. August Pitou is understood to be \$100,000 | Who knows? Some busy lyncher may have shead on the venture up to date, and Kath- had to catch a train.

## CHRISTMAS

SERMONS IN THE PROTESTANT CHURCHES YESTERDAY.

Rev. J. A. Milburn on "The Incarnation"-New Chimes for the First Baptist Church Organ.

Christmas services were held yesterday n most of the Protestant churches. Beautiful and elaborate programmes of music were the principle features of the services, although many of the churches were tastefully decorated with flowers and evergreen. Morning and evening song services were held in the Central-avenue M. E., Meridianstreet M. E., College-avenue Baptist, Plymouth and Mayflower Congregational, First and Second Presbyterian and Roberts Park M. E. Churches, besides in several others. Bright, sunshiny weather lured an unusually large number of persons out of doors and the churches were crowded. Several hundred turned away from the First Baptist Church, unable to be accommodated. There was a large congregation at the Second Presbyterian Church, where the Indianapolis Choral Union rendered Root's "Te Deum," besides which the following numbers were on the programme: "Holy Night" (without accompaniment). old German Christmas song, arranged by Damrosch and Becker; "It Came Upon the Midnight Clear" (hymn of peace) Combs.

The morning programme was repeated at night beside the following: "While Shepherds Watched Their Flocks by Night," Harriss-Arens; soprano solo, selected; 'Hallelujah Chorus," Haendel. Rev. Joseph A. Milburn, pastor of the

church, preached on the divine incarnation, from I Tim. iii, 16: "And without controversy great is the mystery of godliness. God is manifest in the flesh.' "This being Christmas Sunday," he said.

"it is fitting that we should meditate to-

day upon the truth of the incarnation. If

our Christian faith be a real faith and not a fiction the Creator of the worlds and the Mr. Jefferson is full of faith in the pos- | Father of human souls is manifest in all His fullness in Jesus Christ our Lord. am not going this Sabbath day to enter sweet confidence in the everlasting arms, we must approach our Redeemer not critically, but sympathetically, not contentiously, but reverently, with humility of heart, And in this mood, coming to-day in the meditative mood, the pensive mood, let us

see what this beautiful truth of God mani-

fest in the flesh really means for us. "Long have the advocates and the opponents of the Christian faith contending with each other over the character and the place in history and prophecy of Jesus of Nazareth. Those there are who | the than our gentleness, and that His jusdeny anything distinctively supernatural in | tice is like our justice, only that it is im-Jesus. They admit the loveliness and the sweetness of his character, His benignancy, His gentleness, the reform and the lyrical beaty of His soul; they admit that he is by virtue of His supreme majesty of spirit one of the rightful leaders and prophets of humanity. But they deny Him the distinction that the church has claimed for Him, the distinction of a unique divine sonship. They deny that he is in any sense an original prophet; that he is in any sense an initiator of a new moral code; that he is in any special sense, in any sense, not inclusive of all great men, of Socrates, of Buddha, of Mohammed, of Socrates; they deny that he is in any special and transcendent sense a savior of men. On the other hand, the followers of Jesus have been so anxious to make Him marvelous, have been so urgent been so solicitious to magnify and exalt His name at any cost that they claimed for Him many things that He never claimed for himself. Often we hear it said that Jesus imposed upon the con sciences of men an entirely new code of conduct, and that His moral teaching is wholly and distinctively original. often, also, have we heard it said-indeed, it is one of the commonplaces of the pulpit -that Jesus was the revealer of the fatherhood of God. And yet we know that nearly all the moral teaching of Jesus is to be gleaned from the prophets who taught before Him, and we also know that the truth of the fatherhood of God, the thought that God is intimately related to the human spirit, the thought that God is far more that power and justice, but that He is unutterable affection, this thought, I say, this belief, this hope, this aspiration is as old as the yearning of the human spirit and as

ancient as the dreams of God. TRUTH OF THE INCARNATION. "What, then, is the essential, the unique, distinctive truth of the incarnation? It is not that there is a God, it is not even that there is a Father, it is not that there is a hely and immaculate and beautiful rightcousness; it is not these, but it is, I think a truth much more beautiful than this; it is that God the Father and man the child are one; it is that truth as it is in the mind of God and truth as it is in the mind of man are not two, but one. It is that righteousness as it is in the conscience of God and righteousness as it is in the conscience love, the love that beats and surges in the heart of God and the love that beats and surges in the hearts of man are not opposed and different, but one and similar. This is the great truth, this is the essential meaning of the gospel of the incarnation; this truth of the unity of the divine and the

"And it is not until we realize the this revelation, it meaning of until we fully pletely grasp that God is manifest in the flesh that we can ever understand the beauty and the sweetness of the divine heart, that we can ever understand how near to us all God really is. The great sorrow, as well as the pathetic heresy of the human heart in its search for God has been that it has always believed God so far away-first, spacially so far beyond our sight, up there in the high heavens, far away from His children, and even yet spiritually so far away, so high above us, so transcending all our faculties and powers, so unreachable, so unthinkable, and, by virtue of His distance, almost beyond the grasp of our aspiration and our

But now, if we believe in this truth of the unity of the divine and human, and the earth is filled and God is no more to be sought in the distance, but near at home, in the Conscience and the heart of man. What is God? God is truth, the truth in your mind, the eternal truth that is the same yesterday, to-day and forever, that fades not and changes not. What is God? God is righteousness, the immutable righteousness, not to be found in history alone nor in the dark and tragic story of the world, but in your own conscience, in the still, small voice of duty, the stern, yet also gracious, daughter of the voice of God. Whenever any monition speaks to you forbidding you the wrong, whenever any beautiful impulse seizes your heart and carries you on toward the right, whenever your hand is stretched out in the repression of evil, whenever your conscience goes forth in a longing passion toward the good, there is God, for God is the good. He is the beautiful and the good. and wherever you find the good and the beautiful within the empire of your spirit there you find the Father-God manifest in the flesh. What is God? Listen to what the prophet, St. John, says, the one loved by our Lord. the one that lay upon his bosom: 'God is love.' What is love?' Your love, love as you know it, love as you feel it; yes, your love and yet not your love. Love, my dear friends, is not man's creation; it is no creature of the human heart man's love is an impure love, an unbeautiful love, a gross love. The love that is pure and holy, the love that knits heart to heart in sweet affection, the love that binds paren, to child, brother to brother, friend to friend, man to man, people to people-the love that knits the world together in a divine and holy solidarity-that love is God, for God is love.

OUR CONCEPTION OF GOD. "And not only does this doctrine of the the human and the divine bear witness to us of the nearness of God, but it also, much our conception of God. Strange, is it not, that in our thoughts of God we have made His justice so very different from suman justice and His love so very would ever treat his children with the kind of justice that theologians have pictured God as dealing out to His err- is conditioned very largely by the things spirit which made these men successful raim Sumter accused Abram Vage of

conception of divine justice that the church has so long maintained and insisted upon being preached, that condemns the children of God to eternal torments because they believed not the name they had never heard; Where did man ever get that conception of justice that pictures God as a great and severe task-master, as at war with His children, as all turbalence, ferocity and wrath, that justice that cannot and may not be tender until it had been commercially liquidated upon the cross of Calvary. What justice is that that pictures God in the pride of His own unbounded sovereignty passing by His children that He might magnify thereby the more His glory. And where was that justice born that, without | He would have found this more difficult. I compunction, without a sorrow, without a tremor of the heart, without a sigh or a tear, shuts the door of hope upon all of God's children who have not named the name of Christ, His Son? Is this a human justice-justice as you and only stone pavements and narrow strips I understand man love, love as you and I under- called a back yard. What does such a boy stand love? Could our poor, finite love cre-ate only to destroy? Could our poor, finite which dash silvery trout? What does he justice speak into being sentient spirits know of catching bass and pickerel, with only to punish and condemn? Is our theology a human theology in this its darker aspects? Is it the theology of Jesus? Is | woodchucks? What does he know of it the gospel of the incarnation? No. think not. Why? Because the incarnation tells us that God's love and man's love are | hay and lying flat on his back, looking up one, only God's love is infinite and man's at the flying clouds, as the oxen slowly love is finite; that God's justice and man's | draw the load to the barn, and then, when justice are one, only that God's justice is | the load goes by the old well, of slipping perfect and man's justice is imperfect. And what a truth this is, oh, what a blessed and beautiful truth, and when we grasp it how all the shadows vanish from the face of God; how beautiful He becomes, how adorable, how infinitely to be loved for He is infinite justice, infinite love, an infinite human justice, an infinite human

THERE IS AN AWFUL TRUTH. "Dark indeed, I know, are some of the sayings of the Word of God; dark indeed, are some of the moods and attitudes of our gentle Lord and Savior; awful to contemplate are some of the sentences that fell | never could have produced them. from His lips, stern with a terrible sternness are many of the teachings that He taught; for He tells us very clearly and very distinctly of a judgment and that that judgment will distinguish the good from the bad. He tells us with His own lips, not inferentially, but directly and immediately, that there is an eternal life and that there is an eternal death. He speaks to us of a house of many mansions where his Father lives and where we shall meet Him. if we be faithful, one day; but so also He speaks to us of an outer darkness. where there shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth. And this truth we cannot escape, and it is an awful truth.

The loss of any human soul is enough so terrible a thought as to shadow forever spared from that celestial home. It seems last, but what can we do? There are the words, clear, distinct, certain, words that have made the theology of the Christian Church so sombre through all the centuries; words that have made the preaching of Christ's prophets so repulsive and so stern; unmistakable words, indelible words, uneradicable words. What shall we do? Nay, what can we do but find hope in the truth of the incarnation, that God's love is as our love, only so much better, so much sweeter than ours, that His gentleness is as our gentleness, only infinitely more genmaculate and perfect and can do no wrong. And thus, my friends, in this truth of God manifest in the flesh of Jesus Christ our Lord, you and I, if we will, can find a beautiful refuge from all our doubts, our despairs and our fears.'

## NEW CHIMES AT FIRST BAPTIST.

E. C. Atkins's Gift-Mr. Preston's Excellent Work with Chorus. to differentiate Him in his wonderfulness | placed last week and used yesterday for from all other teachers and prophets, have the first time as an accompaniment to the from the hymns, given yesterday: Morning-Organ solo (Guilmant); carel. Christmas Bells" (H. T. Burleigh), by the hildren's chorus; processional, "Come Ye Lofty" (Victor Baier); anthem. (H. M. Bartlett); quartet and chorus, "The First Christmas" (J. Barnby); offertory duet, soprano and contralto. Night" (Dr. Dossert); organ, "Grand Chorus" (Handel.)

"Holy Evening-Organ solo (Jules Grison) Christmas carol, by the children; procesional. "Raise Your Glad Song;" anthem. 'Christmas' (Lacombe-Graves); children's chorus, "Sing We Alleluia" (Alex. Irving) soprano solo and chorus, "The Virgin's Cradle Song" (Alex, Irving); offertory, "Christmas Song." by Master Ralph Sharp: anthem. "There were Shepherds" sing); organ, "Grand March" (Lefebure-

Members of the First Baptist Church feel the excellent work being done by Mr. Preston Under his careful direction the choir has reached a standard where it has no superior in the entire city, and every Sunday the church is crowded, a number who look upon music as the most attractive thing in church services being among the It is a difficult thing to direct a mixed choir of children and adults, but there was no hitch yesterday. Yesterday's programme will be repeated next Sunday night. Rev. D. J. Ellison, paster of the church, preached yesterday morning.

the babe wrapped in swaddling clothes and | the heavens, lying in a manger." Dr. Ellison said in part: "We shall never know the fullness of meaning that is wrapped up in that first Christmas time until we stand on the other | Efforts of J. H. Acton, of Chicago, to side of the gates of pearl and look upon all the glories that Christ left behind that December night when He came down the Jordan valley to be born in Bethlehem of Truth and mystery are intershot with sweetness and light in that heavenly advent. We can taste the sweetness and enjoy the light; we cannot explain the mystery, and I am glad, for wherever we touch the infinite we find that which reaches out beyond the widest horizon of human streets. He explained that he had formthought and knowledge. The visible and tangible circumstances of the incarnation are most beautiful and thrilling. The evening wears on still and cold until the midnight hour, when suddenly there rings out from the mighty galleries of the sky a rapturous burst of angelic praise, and multitudes of the heavenly host, white-robed was now engaged on his own authority. and crowned with light, drive back the darkness as with a flood of glory. Yonder limestone hills that now, as then, stand | every-day and practical churches, churches about the little village, are transformed into mountains of gold and peaks of trembling light. The occasion which called forth this exhibition of other-world glory and with all people who were doing good. seemed hardly to justify the result-only wo wayfarers, lodging in a cave back of Bethlehem's inn and used as a sholter for organization in this city, but would defer cattle. Upon the pale face of the young it until after the people had time to think wife God had just set the dignity and tenderness of motherhood and there beside her. in a rough manger, lay a beautiful babe before whom even the heasts of the stad be undertaken, and whether or not they knelt in adoration. The rough door swung open and wise men from the far East enteres the cave, men who and come ever meor and mountain, over dreary desert and rushing river; and back of them stood shepherds, rough men with coarse garments, yet with kindly faces; and all together bow before the chill. "That first Christmas time sociaks to me of the divine sanction upon huntle beginnings. Of all who ever entered the world, Christ is the only one with whom it was

matter of choice into what condition He should come. Every other soul has been ushered into this world unasked. All have come from the sunny gate of a aven Llindfolded, knowing not whether the bandage should be removed from their eyes amid surroundings of wealth and culture in the spacious room of the marble palace or imid circumstances of poverty and want. things a life comes when it enters the world, for earthly environment has much to do with soul development. You cannot grow large and luscious oranges in Siberia. Florida is the place for that. The best you can do toward oranges in Siberia is to plant them in a box in the window of a warm room. On the dwarfed and puny branches may come sickly blossoms that may develop into hard and bitter marbles that cannot be called fruit because they are not

in the sunny south is only bud life in the cold north. LAW OF ENVIRONMENT. "This law of environment is the thought

which stand around it. It was acting along the lines of this law that Jesus selected the conditions that should surround His early life, and His choice has ever been the surprise of the world. He chose to be born in a stable. That is as far down as any life can begin. He chose to be identified with a poor home and begin His existence as helpless child there. He chose to harden the hands that angels would love to kiss with manual toil. All this speaks of divine sanction upon humble beginnings. In Nazareth, with its freedom, its quiet and its simplicity, His soul could unfold naturally, but had He lived in Jerusalem, with its forms and ceremonies, with its schol astic atmosphere, with its strong prejudices, is a blessing for any boy to begin life as and restfulness of country life. I pity a who, from earliest childhood, knows justice. Is this a hu- of God's earth, between board fences, eager face and beaming eyes? What does he know of trapping tox, or squirrel, or I tramping hill and meadow to bring the cows home, of climbing upon the load of off and letting down the bucket, bringing it up with its full of clear, cold water, and then resting it on the edge of the well curb to sweep back the hair from the brow and take a deep, life-giving draught of the best water in the world? I care not how poor he may be, that boy is most fortunate who spends the first fifteen years of his life in a country home. It gives purer blood, sounder heart and stronger muscle, It furnishes him with a reserve power that will enable him to keep up with the city's rush by and by, and baffle the city's fever.

Luther, Livingstone, Lincoln, Shakespeare,

Beecher and 19,000 other successful men

have all been country boys. The city

OUT OF HUMBLE BEGINNING. But not only humble beginnings as to place, but- humble beginnings as to opportunity have here the divine sanction. How little He had to help Him in Nazareth! What meager opportunities, what simple people, what crude schools! It was the wonder of the scribes and Pharisees, in the days of His greatest power, how this man knew letters; that is, knowledge, wisdom, culture, for, as they said, He never learned. Ah, but He had learned, learned from opportunities that they would have overlooked and from helps that they would passing away into the outer night of any have despised! It does not require elaborate opportunities for God's man to dethe serenity and the beauty of the stellar | him to rise. A swallow can outny the sky of the eternities where we all are to | crushing the petais of flowers and chewing meet the Father face to face. I confess the end of a stick to make a brush, can that I cannot understand it; I confess it | show indications of immortal powers, it is a terrible mystery to me; I confess that I is not what we do, but how we do it, that my spirit shrinks from the contemplation rays out the giory of great genius. There of even a single soul lost, forever lost, is a painting by Murmo in the Louvre, And it seems that no prodigal can be representing the interior of a convent kuchen, but doing the work there are not hat we should all be gathered there at | mortais in odd dresses, but beautiful whitewinged angels. One serenely puts the kettie on the fire to boil, and one is lifting and one is at the dresser, reaching up for plates and there is a little cherub, running about and getting in the way and trying to help. All are so busy, and working with such a will and so retining is the work as they do it that somehow you forget that pans are pans, and pots, pots, and only think of the angels and how every natural and beautiful kitchen work is-just what the angels would do, of course, if called upon to do it. It is the motive and the aim that alone can consecrate anything we do, and the doing of God's will is always splendid work, though it be but washing dishes or cleaning a room. Most beautifully does Ruskin remind us that the smallest roadside pool has its water from heaven and its gleam from the sun, and can hold the stars in its bosom, as well as "The first Christmas time speaks also

world. It does not seem as one life could count for much in a world like this. Beyond the thought of man are the myriads of lives that have stormed across this little not seem that one could touch and influence so many, for human life is so brief, We but begin to do before we must stop all doing. 'As for man, his days are as grass, as a flower of the field, so he flourisheth.' Yet the records of history show that this life has reached out and touched nightliv the human race. It has lifted whole nations into a giorious and highly developed civilization. to one another. It shall broaden away in V. Preston, the organist, played the its influence until it encircles the whole earth. It has never been baffled or defeated, though, for a time, it may have been submerged by influences of the world, yet it always reappears more victorious

"It has brought men near to God and near than ever. A tourist writes of a spring as sweet as any that ever gushed from sunny hillside, which one day he found by the sea when the tides had ebbed away. Getting down upon his knees, he tasted the water, and it was sweet. Soon the sea came again and poured its bitter surf over the attle spring, hiding it out of sight. Like a fair star, thick buried in a cloud or life in the grave's gloom.

The spring, enwrapped in a deep watery shrowd. Sank to its tomb When the tide ebbed away again the

tourist stood once more by the spring to bitterness in the waters, but nev were as sweet as ever. This is a picture of the life of Christ in the world. o-day it seems hidden, but to-morrow it comes forth in all its purity a d power. He will sweeten your life and mine, amid the gladness of this Christmas time if we will only have long been silent, giving forth no sound of praise, as minstreis, in the elden time, were wont to come into castled halls, and taking down from the ancient walls, harps, long unused, sweep over the strings fall thickly, and not the old year, but the old life is dying, even then we need fear no evil if the child of Bethlehem be in our hearts; for there shall break upon us the music burst of the angels, and our feet shall stand upon the shining steps of the His text was Luke ii, 12: "Ye shall find | house not made with hands, eternal in

A PEOPLE'S CHURCH. J. H. Acton, of Chicago, who hopes to by the recent Liberal Congress of Religion, preached last night in Grand Army Hali, at the corner of Delaware and Court erly been an orthodox minister, but had found that it did not suit him, and had become a Unitarian. He was liberal in his views, and believed that any religion that which opposed the religion of none but tried to join hands with all church people, He said he hoped to be able to perfect an what should be the scope of the work to wanted such a church. During the services Those present were also invited to ask any questions along the line of the liberal movement. These papers will form the subject of a ten-minute lecture by Mr. Acton before the regular services next Sunday

was on "The Ethics of Common Sense," He said that common sense was the ability to make a well-balanced intellect of all the faculties. He likened the intellectual power to the body. Food taken into the body is of no value as a nourishment to the body and cannot become a valuable part of the body unless it is digested and assimilated. So with knowledge, which is the food of the mental faculties. Unless it is properly classified and unified it cannot become vainable in strengthening the intellect. It was on the broad idea of accepting that which is good and applying it where it belongs, that the liberal church should be founded.

The speaker compared Abraham Lincoln fit to eat. What is tree life in Florida is with Alexander and Napoleon. All were only plant life in Siberia. What is fruit life great because they possesed common sense They had a faculty of adapting themselves to all classes of people and conditions, and succeeded. But Lincoln retained the faculty, and his life was a success, while Naof God. In the beginning the life may be the same, but the development of any life and they fell. Mr. Acton hoped that the game followed the chicken contest. Eph-

would pervade any movement for the organization of a people's church in this city. Next Sunday night Mr. Acton will lecture on "The Liberal Congress Idea."

#### NEWS IN SUNDAY'S JOURNAL Resume of Chief Events Printed in the Issue of Dec. 27.

Consul General Lee and his family arrived Saturday at Havana. Showles, the famous bareback rider, killed man at Red Bank, N. J. Minister Andrade, of Venezuela, arrived in New York Saturday from Venezuela. Julio Sanguilly has been sentenced at Havana to serve eight years in prison. Germany will reorganize her artillery service if France decides to do so, as

Manufacturers of the variety of paper ised by newspapers are endeavoring to Alfred Le Choit, Belgian minister, has been recalled from Washington and will go

to St. Petersburg.

The special board on Carnegie armor plates has reported that many defective plates were found Bank Examiner McKeon has been appointed receiver for the National Bank of Illinois at Chicago. The German Royal family spent Christmas at the new Palace of Potsdam, where great festivities were held. The Hon. E. J. Phelps, ex-minister to England, supports the stand taken by Sec-retary Olney in the Cuban matter. The Pasteur treatment to prevent hydro-

phobia failed in the cases of three out of eight persons bitten by a mad dog at Bal-The body of Professor Louis Pasteur has been removed from the Cathedral at Paris to the Pasteur Institute. The attendant ceremonies were impressive.

#### Indianapolis. A movement is on foot to have the sena-

torial caucus Jan. 7 The free-silver Democrats will have mass convention on Jackson's day, Jan. T. P. Swain, of this city, was elected president of the Commercial Travelers' Asso-

Arthur Sweenie, a well-known young man about town, was stabbed by a negro Saturday night in a negro resort on Roanoke

The May Festival directors have called for Jan. 4 a meeting of the chorus, which Mr. Van der Stucken, the new musical director, will attend. Chairman Hanna, of the currency confer-

ence executive committee, thinks it will be a big mistake if the currency question is not referred by the conference to a com-

Mail Bags Stolen. NEW YORK, Dec. 26 .- The World to-morpublish the following: Several business firms that had wondered why important letters containing large sums of money had been delayed in the mails have received the letters but not the inclosures, stained with the waters of the bay in which they had been tossed for two or three days before being picked up. The letters had been opened, the money inside, transmitted by the firms' correspondents in Chicago Cincinnati, San Francisco, Philadelphia and Pittsburg, taken out, after which the thief had dropped the letters into the bay. Investigation made at the postoffice confirmed the story. The robbery is evidently one of the largest and cleverest ever known in the history of the department, and the total loss reaches many thousand dollars. The postoffice officials admit this much, but decline, for official reasons, to say anything further. It was learned that the mail bags were stolen at a depot in this city from a Western express that reached here Tuesday, that the letters were carried away. that the thieves boarded an outgoing steamer and are now on their way to Europe or some Southern ports "All that I am at liberty to tell." Postmaster Dayton to-day, "is that these letters were found in the bay just off Coney island, having been dropped by an outgoing steamer. That is all we can tell at present. There has been a robbery and of the importance of that one life to the | the postoffice inspectors have the case in

#### Dynamite Gun Used.

CINCINNATI, O., Dec. 26.-A special to the Commercial Tribune from Key West, Fla., says: "Reports from Havana to night are that an attack was made on on of General Rivera's foot-hill forts vesterday by some of Weyler's forces and that the Spaniards were repulsed, the big dynamite gun belonging to General Rivera's command securing the victory for the insurgents. It is reported that over fifty men were lost on the Spanish side and fewer in the Cuban ranks. All information is refused at Havana, where the officials say that no such engagement took place. As the report came through the regular Cuban channels, it is believed here. Colonel San Martinez's columns have been burning houses and destroying plantations all through the section south and west of Artemisa as far out as they dared venture. During the past week three hundred houses and many plantations have been destroyed. four hundred head of cattle secured and a number of tobacco fields and cane patches laid waste. Weyler's orders are to spare nothing. A number of pacificos, it is reported, offered resistance to the taking of their cattle, saying their families would starve, and they were killed. Over twentyfive such instances have been recorded General Rivera's forces are increasing, and he has had accessions to his stock of arms and ammunition this week, an expedition having landed on the southern side of the island from Honduras or Mexico, it is presumed. An American correspondent not

#### given has succeeded in getting through the Spanish lines and joining Rivera's column.

Death of J. D. Weeks. PITTSBURG, Pa., Dec. 26.-Joseph D. Weeks, editor of the American Manufacturer and Iron World, died to-night at his home from apoplexy. Mr Weeks had been apparently in the best of health up to the time he left his office, at 6 o'clock this evening. On leaving the elevator he was suddenly attacked with apoplexy, and fell moned. They ordered him taken to his residence, on Lang avenue, where he died at I 7:30 without having regained consciousness,

Mr. Weeks had international reputation as an authority on subjects relating to iron and steel. He was born in Lowell, Mass. Dec. 2, 1840, graduated from Wesleyan University, Middletown, Conn., and was an M. E. minister for eight years. At the time of his death he was president of the Western Iron Association, secretary of the Pennsylvania Tax Conference. States statistician and editor of the American Manufacturer, and one of the experts in the Monongahela pavigation condemna tion proceedings committee. He has made several trips to Europe as agent of the United States government on industrial matters, and performed special service in collection of statistics for the census report in 1890. He was a thirty-third degree Mason, and stood very high in the business and industrial world. He leaves a wife and daughter, Emma Fowler Weeks, now a student at the Woman's College, Baltimore.

## Trafalgar Mob Leaders,

FRANKLIN, Ind., Dec. 26.-Marshal Luyster, with a number of deputies, went Trafalgar to-day to arrest the leaders of the mob that attacked the Tuscola, Iil. party there yesterday, nearly destroying the big McKinley horn they carried. The officer took warrants for James Gillaspy, saloon keeper at Trafalgar; Aquilla Moore and Everett Bridges, well known Democrats of that locality. Moore and Bridges had disappeared, but Gillaspy was found and brought to this city to-night He gave bond for his appearance next Wednesday. Others will probably be arrested by that time. An additional outrage committed by the mob, and one that is condemued by the

citizens generally, was the burning of a large silk flag, with which the horn was decorated. While some of the crowd was destroying the horn one of the leaders obtained the flag, and, holding it in his hand, touched a match to it and held it aloft while it burned amid the exultant chouts of his companions. The remains of the born have been on exhibition here to-day, and all who saw it have been very outspoken in their condemnation of the outrage. Morgan, of Tuscola, will remain here until after the trial as a prosecuting witness.

#### Due to Henvy Speculation. CHICAGO, Dec. 26.-Judge Hancy this

fternoon appointed the Chicago Title and Frust Company receiver for the Norton & Co., who operate the Lockport flouring mills, one of the oldest concerns in the vicinity of Chicago. The appointment John L. Norton, one of the members of the firm, against his partner, Lemuel D. Norton to which the latter filed an answer agreeing to the receivership. The partnership has been in existence for nearly forty years, the present partners having taken the mills from their fathers. The failure is regarded as a large one, the assets reaching nearly half a million dollars, while the liabilities are said to be considerably less. The failure is attributed to heavy speculations by one of the partners on the Board

Three Killed and Three Wounded. PINEAPPLE, Ala., Dec. 25.-Three men were killed and as many more were wounded as the result of a fight in the lower part of Wilcox county on Christmas day. A score of young men had arranged

# Co-Day

We Place on Sale

A Choice Collection High Class Qua Evening Silks, at ......

Formerly 75c and 90c a yard.

**Brocaded White** 

India Silk, at..... Formerly \$1.00 a yard.

**Brocaded Damask** 

High Class Silks, at W Formerly \$2.00 a yard.

## Great Fur Sale Capes and Collarettes

At greatly reduced prices.

## Blankets and Comforts

On sale to-day at reduced prices.

## 7 and 9 East Washington St.

cheating. This precipitated a quarrel, in which each man's friends took sides. Pistols were drawn and a general shooting folowed. Sumter was killed; Albert Livingston and Abram Page were mortally wounded, and soon died. Three others received slight wounds.

Mortgage Trust Company Fails. DALLAS, Tex., Dec. 26.-The Security Mortgage Trust Company passed into the hands of Harry P. Kahler as receiver today. The appointment was made on the petition of the directors of the company. The financial condition of the company is set forth in the petition as follows: Liabilities, \$1,296,225; interest, \$25,000; quit sale mortgages, \$650,000; taxes, \$17,000; habilities on stock, \$500,000; total liabilities, \$2,488,225, Assets-Notes, cash and mortgages, \$1,500,-000; in subcompanies, \$114,000; bonds in various corporations, \$50,000; mortgages sold (not collected),\$650,000; total assets, \$2,214,000.

#### New Care for Smallpox.

CITY OF MEXICO, Dec. 26.-Experiments made with smallpox patients in Oaxaca with water to smallpox patients, the pustules of the worst variety disappear and the fever is immediately diminished. The matter attracts much attention. The remedy was accidentally discovered by a young girl who was down with the disease, who secretly refreshed herself with honey and water with the astonishingly curative resuits, and it was then tried on soldiers sick

### with the disease.

Bryan's Lecture Tour. LINCOLN, Neb., Dec. 26.-The following was given to the Associated Press to-night: 'Mr. McBee has, with my consent, transferred his contract to H. Briggs & Co., of Greenville, S. C. Only five lectures have been arranged for up to this time. Whether I shall deliver any in addition to that number is as yet uncertain. I have some further work on hand which may

interfere with further lecturing during this. W. J. BRYAN. Receiver for a Coal Company. COLUMBUS, O., Dec. 26.-Jay O. Moss of Sandusky, was this evening appointe receiver of the Columbus & Hocking Coal and Iron Company, and his bond fixed at \$40,000. Mr. Moss is president of the company. The receivership was precipitated by the receivers of the Baltimore & Ohio Rail-

road taking judgments aggregating \$60,405

of Land Under the Zuyder Zee.

#### against the company for freight charges. A GIGANTIC ENGINEERING FEAT. Holland to Reclaim 787 Square Miles

Literary Digest. Holland has determined upon a gigantic engineering feat-the reclaiming of 787 square miles of land now lying under the Zuyder Zee. Eight hundred years ago all of Holland contained but six hundred square miles of land, or less than one-third the area of the State of Delaware. Gradually, by means of great dykes, land has been reclaimed until the present area is nearly thirteen thousand square miles. This is more than twenty times the original area. The new work involves the construction of a dam twenty-seven miles in length. The line will run from a point near Helder, which is north of Amsterdam, to the Island of Wieringen. Then from the east end of attendants. There are about sixty voices with skillful fingers, that al'ed forth into a corner of the hall, when he was carof man are not dual, but single. It is that in the regular choir. Yesterday the pres- sounds of wondrous melodies. When at ried back to his office and physicians sum- extend eastward to the mainland, connecting at a point just south of Workum. The dyke will measure thirty-five feet at the base, tapering to eight at the tor The first task is the driving of two rows of piles on either side of the proposed dyke. forming a passage fifty feet wide. Against these there will be packed bags of sand until two parallel embankments are raised above the sea level. The water will then be pumped out of this area and a dry canal formed from shore to shore. Here on the bed of the sea the dyke will be built of solid masonry. Behind the wall will be a bank of earth, bound with willow twigs in series of basket-work. For the drainage of this great basin colossal windmills are to be constructed two hundred feet in height with arms seventy-five feet long. These will raise the water into the net work of canals which will cover the reclaimed area. Nor is this the end of the task. The bottom of the sea is sand of little fertility. Top soil and fertilizers will be brought from every Dutch colony, and in two or three generations the depressions will be brough to the level of the canals. Where once the sea flowed unrestricted here will be green gardens and farms, dotted with cottages and towns, and canals

#### pleting this enterprise, but she will have added \$600,000,000 to her national wealth, and will have demonstrated afresh the moral greatness of a people who, in the face of such tremendous matural disadvantages. have the patience to compel earth to yield her treasures.

Holland will have spent \$50,000,000 in com-

ELECTRIC EGGS.

Giving Them a Bath of Electricity in

Order to Keep Them Fresh.

covered with heavily-laden barges.

A New York electrician has devised a scheme for the indefinite preservation of eggs. For years the only successful method of accomplishing this result has been to submerge the hen fruit in lime water long enough to close up the pores in the shell, and kal any germs which might be lurking about. With this treatment it has been possible to preserve eggs in such a state as to permit their use three or four months after the submersion. But at the expiration of this time, while the eggs are in a condition to be used by confectioners and bakers, they have lost the delicacy and the matutinal meal.

freshness which make them appetizing for However, if the electrician's scheme proves to be a success eggs can be preserved for an indefinite period in as eatable a condition as when first laid. The treatment proposed involves the placing of the eggs in a vacuum chamber. It is a well-known fact that the shell is not absoutely air-tight, and there is always more or less air inside the outer covering, which hartens its decay. Putting them in the vacuum chamber will have the effect of drawing the air from the interior. They will then be painted with a composition which will render the shells air-tight. After this they will be packed in barrels of water and an electric current will be introduced sufficient in strength to destroy any germ life which may be present. If the scheme s successful it will mean a revolution in

## the price of eggs in the winter.

Green Bag. The Court-What is your age, madam? The Plaintiff-Must I answer? The Court-You must. The Plaintiff-Why, judge, I thought p

ple didn't have to testify against them-